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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

May 1979

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

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Volume 9 Number 5

Produced by:
Research and Analysis
in cooperation with the
U. S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

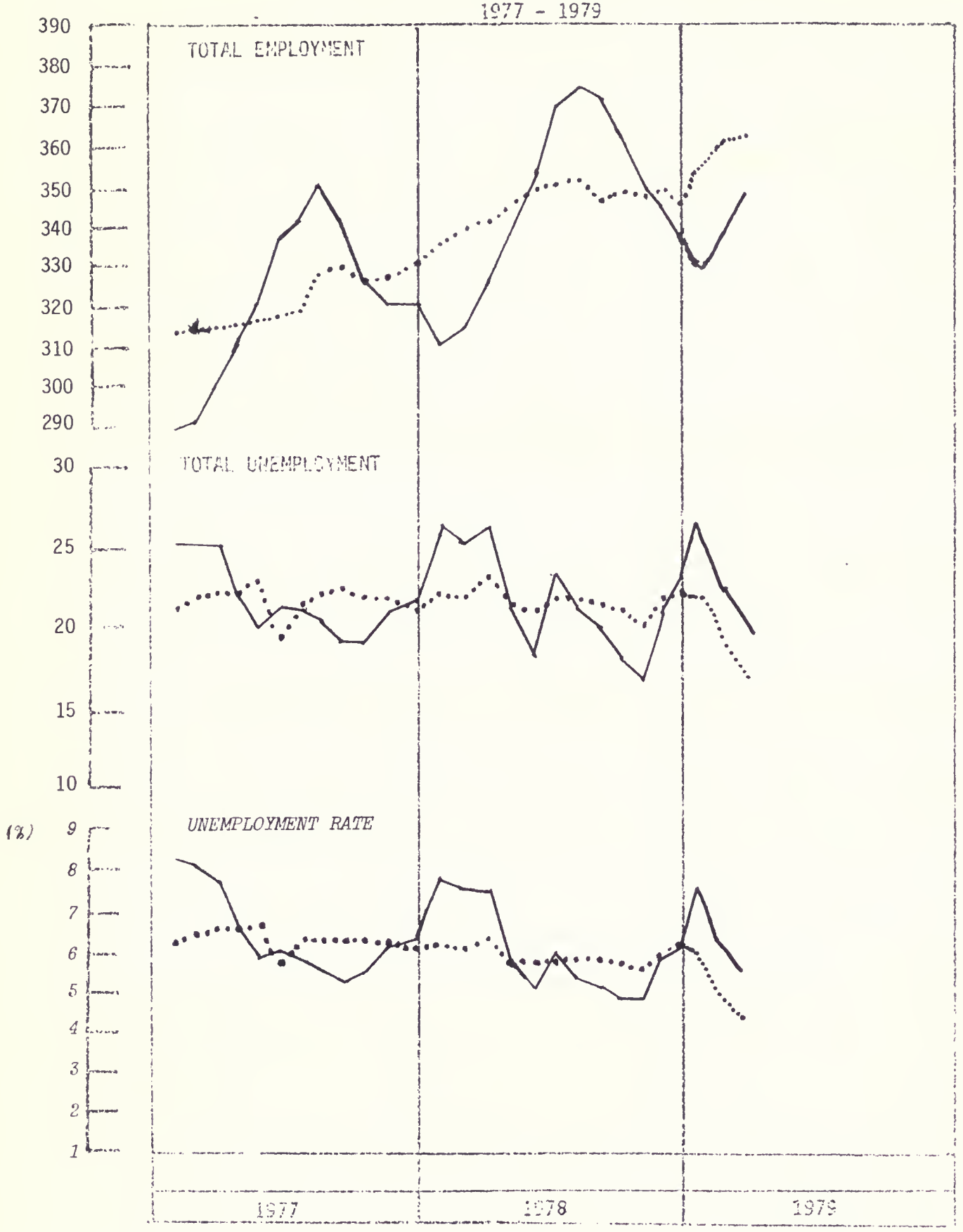
14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: _____)

(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: .....)

1977 - 1979



All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

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* STATEWIDE HIGHLIGHTS *

As reflected in the current employment and unemployment statistics, Montana continued to enjoy a strong seasonal resurgence this month. The statewide civilian labor force swelled by 10,000 persons from the March level, reaching a total of 376,100 in April. That figure further represents a 2.8% increase over the one recorded in April 1978.

Within the civilian labor force the number of individuals holding jobs increased, while the ranks of those without work declined. Employment reached 357,200, compared with 346,300 in March and 336,500 in February. The gain from one year ago amounted to 3.7%. Meanwhile, unemployment continued its decline for the third consecutive month, reaching a total of 18,900 in April. That figure compares very favorably with the 21,400 on the jobless rolls a year ago. These changes within the civilian labor force yielded a statewide unemployment rate of 5.0% in April. Last year at this time the rate was 5.9%.

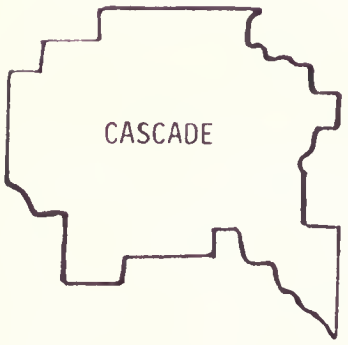
More consistent, moderate weather patterns in recent weeks have spurred employment and general business activity levels throughout Montana. Virtually every major industrial sector has benefitted in the seasonal upswing. The instability of work demands in recent months affecting agriculture, construction, oil exploration, and lumber and wood products is rapidly being alleviated, and many service and trade businesses are starting to feel an increase in recreation-related activity.

Ongoing problems involving a railroad operating in parts of Montana continue to threaten the jobs of hundreds of employees of a railway company serving the state. A final resolution to the problem of a shutdown of operations has not yet been achieved, with proponents and opponents of the service still presenting their arguments.

Winter wheat production has suffered a setback this year, with winter kill claiming substantial amounts of acreage in various sections of the state. Current production forecasts for 1979 are 22 percent less than the forcasts made in December.

Caution must be used in discussing the general economy of Montana in the coming months. Present employment conditions and industry activity appear to be good in the state, and new business formations remain ahead of last year's pace. However, unstable patterns in the movement of the composite index of leading economic indicators cloud the issue. Complicating matters even further are a rising consumer price index and the possibility of gasoline shortages. These latter two factors may play a potentially serious role in Montana's tourism business this year.

GREAT FALLS SMSA (Cascade County)



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force increased from 34,900 in March to 35,200 in April. This compares to 34,500 for April one year ago for an annual gain of 2.0%. Employment reflected similar gains with a gain of 400 from the March count of 32,800 to 33,200 in April. Comparative figures for last year were 34,500 in the civilian labor force for a 2.0% gain and 32,500 count of employment for a 2.2% gain. The count of the unemployed registered a slight decrease moving from 2,100 in March to 2,000 in April. Corresponding unemployment rates recorded were 6.1% in March and 5.7% in April. Unemployment in April of last year was reported at 2,000 the same as this year. The rate of unemployment was slightly higher last year at 5.8% than this April's rate.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Activities in the SMSA appear to be seasonally normal at this time. Substantial employment growth from March is reflected by the Trade and Service sectors, while the remaining industry sectors remain unchanged or have slight employment gains. Most hiring at this time is a result of summer hiring in the Trade, Service, Construction, and Agricultural sectors.

Strong hiring activities in the Agricultural sector have created temporary shortages of farm and ranch workers. Currently 35 employment requests are unfilled at the Job Service because of the lack in qualified workers available for employment. No major construction projects have started furing this report period. Activity is peaking on projects previously started. Another shopping center is proposed for Great Falls. The center is in the planning stage at this time awaiting approval from local government. New Businesses for the month totaled 28, one less than the previous month.

BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County)

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force of 53,100 posted a slight decrease of 200 persons from the March count and a 700 person reduction from one year prior. However, the number of people employed remained unchanged from last month, at 51,200. The employment total was 51,500 in April 1978.

Unemployment in the SMSA was measured at 3.6% in April. This is an improvement over last month's 3.9% rate and a one year earlier unemployment rate of 4.3%. The number of unemployed in the county fell from 2,100 in March to 1,900 in April and was 400 behind last year's April count of 2,300.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The issuing of several large building permits in April paced Billings ahead of last year's value for the January-April period. Among the $11,749,847 April total are included: $300,000 grain storage project; $100,000 parking structure, $7,604,000 nationally affiliated hotel; $250,000 church renovation; and $378,000 office and shop addition to Eastern Montana College.

Many other construction projects continue in the planning stage. A new Post Office in Laurel is in the bidding request phase. Another restuarant with a $500,000 value will begin building soon in Billings. A chain grocery-drug store plans to add another facility in the Billing Heights area. Expansion can be noted in warehouse facilities, especially on the south side of Billings. An office machine supplier, a wholesale distributor of furniture, and a new wine wholesaler have constructed large establishments.

In recent months several Montana cities have announced city employee reductions. Billings, in turn, has acknowledged money problems with a planned 40 fewer jobs in the next fiscal year. Many of the positions shall be reduced through quits and retirements.

A statewide labor dispute by a union representing certain grocery workers is affecting 16 grocery stores. The labor dispute began April 25 and involves about 80 union members. Also honoring the picket lines are many members of another union. A rough estimate is 200 personnel.

Recreation facilities are in growth news. To be developed is a million dollar, 16 court raquet club structure. A new city golf course opened this month. In Laurel, a replacement golf club house will be built for the club that burned down.

Job openings in food service area are increasing slightly. There continues to be a demand in the Billings area for skilled and experienced clerical workers. Also, a high demand for experienced diesel mechanics and construction equipment mechanics exists.

ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force continued its seasonal increase for the third consecutive month in the LMA. At 36,600, that figure represents a 3.7% increase over the previous month and a 2.7% rise from the 35,700 recorded in April, 1978.

The employment component of the civilian labor force rose from 33,300 in March to 34,500 in April. The increase amounted to 3.6%, while on an annual basis the upward movement was 3.9%.

Unfortunately, the number of unemployed persons also rose during the four week period. The jobless rolls increased to 2,100 in April, largely due to an approximate one month layoff of workers at a local smelting operation. The change was reflected in the area unemployment rate, which rose from 5.6% in March to 5.7% in April. However, the current rate compares very favorably with the 7.0% recorded in April 1978.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The construction sector in this area has been increasingly active recently, providing an important economic stimulus. Prospects for a strong season are reported to be very good at the present time, with at least three major projects currently leading off the prime building period. Work continues on the new $2.19 million post office in Butte, while the initial phases of construction have begun on a new "mini-mall", housing offices and retail stores. Perhaps the most significant undertaking is the proposed construction of a motel-convention center in Butte. Work is expected to begin within the next few months at a total estimated cost of more than $4 million.

Retail and service sectors are reporting average business levels at the current time. Some summer hiring is taking place; however, speculation about the amount of tourism this season is forcing some employers to use more caution in the hiring process.

The lumber and wood products industry has remained hampered by spring breakup in recent weeks. Reports from local Job Service offices indicate that some recalls of loggers are taking place now, suggesting an improvement in the poor forest conditions.

In agriculture, a strong demand persists for qualified farm and ranch hands, as the area prepares for the summer work season.

BOZEMAN LMA

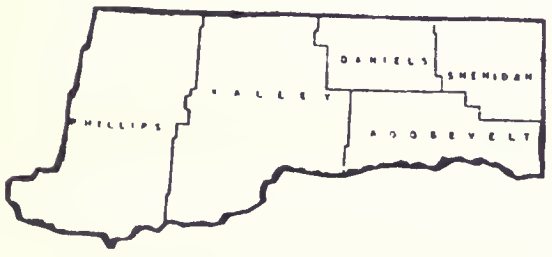
Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The employment situation demonstrated improvement in April. The civilian labor force increased from 26,600 in March to 27,500 in April. Employment reflected similar gains by moving from 25,400 in March to 26,300 in April. In comparison to April of last year, this year's civilian labor force was 4.6% greater than last year's 26,300 count and employment was 4.8% ahead of last year's 25,100 count. The count of the number of unemployed in April totaled 1,200 for a 4.2% rate. March had the same number of unemployed, but for a 4.4% rate of unemployment. Comparative figures for last year in April showed unemployment at 1,200 with a 4.4% rate.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Construction activities in the LMA have spurred all activities in general as the seasonal shift from winter into summer nears completion. A majority of the construction involves residential units at this time. As site preparations are completed, commercial construction will highlight this industry sector. Street repair and highway projects are presently starting in the LMA. Layoffs from winter recreation sites were offset by hires in Yellowstone Park. Calls for farm and ranch hands, as well as irrigators in the area, are reaching seasonal peaks. No major shortages are reported at this time for agricultural workers. Many summer tourist outlets, both in the trade and service sectors, are opening for another season creating high demands for service workers. Temporary spot shortages have occurred for these workers, but this has not presented any major problems for area employers.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The seasonal pattern of improvement in the Glasgow LMA employment picture continued during April. The civilian labor force gained 900 persons during April, to reach a level of 16,900. Also, the employed labor force increased by 900, to a 16,200 figure.

The unemployment rate for the area for April was reduced to 4.0% from the 4.2% one month earlier. The expansion of the labor force accounted for the reduction, as the unemployed count remained unchanged at 700. A favorable comparison with the April 1978 unemployment rate of 5.2% can be noted.

GLASGOW LMA

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

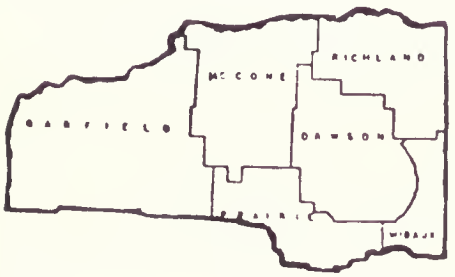
Outdoor activities were minimal during the month of April in the Glasgow LMA. Some of last month's conditions prevailed; cold and rainy weather. The flooding conditions had varying damaging effects to land and property. Valley County has 18 washouts in its network of main roads.

Several layoffs were noted from the local packing plant due to the lack of cattle for slaughter. Other layoffs came from the CETA program on the Fort Peck reservation.

Opheim radar station will shut down July 1 and by September 30 all persons and equipment will be removed. Involved in relocating are 95 military and civilian personnel. Possible usage of the facilities is being investigated.

Most employment activities have been delayed by weather. However, the service and retail trade industries kept their normal pace of summer hiring. Many applications of students, both from high school and college, are being submitted for summer employment. Two oil exploration crews have moved into the Wolf Point area and will be hiring some local people as soon as they begin field operations. The construction of major highways in the area is resuming.

GLENDIVE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Employment statistics showed a general trend of continued improvement during April. The civilian labor force in the LMA increased by 900 individuals from the March level, reaching 14,800 in April. The present total reflects a modest 1.4% advance from the 14,600 recorded in April, 1978.

Employment remained on the upswing, rising to a total of 14,400 compared with 12,800 in February and 13,500 in March. On an annual basis the increase amounted to 2.1%.

Meanwhile, the number of persons without work has remained unchanged since February. However, the current unemployment figure of 400 is an improvement over the total of 500 registered one year ago, and the unemployment rate exhibited a healthy decline from 3.7% in April 1978, to 2.7% at the present time.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

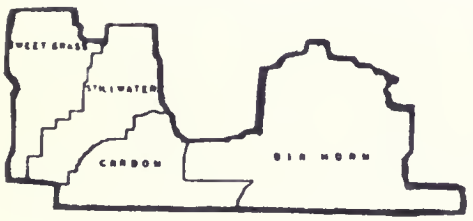
With continually improving weather conditions during the past four weeks, outdoor activity is playing a more important role in the economy of the LMA. Exploration and other oil field related activity, in particular, are finally experiencing some resurgence. An unusually long period of spring breakup is ending and work crews are being called back to many sites.

GLENDIVE LMA (Cont.)

In the construction sector, residential and commercial building projects are reported to be progressing well. Indeed, some areas have reported a shortage of qualified workers.

Other industrial sectors are experiencing good business activity levels, particularly those enterprises providing services related to oil field projects.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

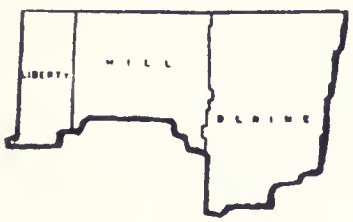
The civilian labor force expanded by 800 during April, to reach a level of 13,200. This year's civilian labor force in April was 5.1% greater than the April 1978 count of 12,500. Employment demonstrated similar gains. The April count of 12,800 was 900 more than the previous month and 7.6% greater than one year ago. Unemployment in the LMA totaled 400 persons in April, which was 100 less than the previous month, and 200 less than one year ago. The rate of unemployment was 3.3% in April, down from the March rate of 4.3% and down from last year's rate of 4.9%.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Agricultural activities are at a peak with calls for qualified farm and ranch workers exceeding supply. Summer hiring has also started for Forest Service workers in the area. Winter recreational firms are experiencing layoffs at this time. Many will reopen as summer tourist activities pickup. Currently, many seasonal service firms are reopening for the season.

Normal seasonal peaks are being reached in the construction sector. A majority of the activitiy in this sector is involved with residential home remodeling and construction. Activities in other industry sectors are also increasing to seasonal peaks with hiring occurring in all sectors.

HAVRE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The employment situation in the Havre labor area appears to be continuing its seasonal improvement trend this month. The civilian labor force increased by 600 over the past month, reaching an April level of 13,000 persons. Also, the number of persons currently employed increased by 600 for April total count of 11,800 workers. These shifts, in turn, caused a drop in the area's rate of unemployment from 5.2% in March to 4.3% this month.

HAVRE LMA (Cont.)

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

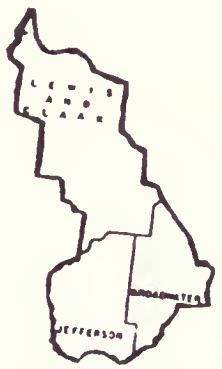
A 15 day labor dispute idled about 80-100 union represented meat cutters, retail clerks, and bakers. The labor dispute began April 25, and was one of longest labor disputes in Havre's recent history.

Many construction projects are just resuming operations. Exploration drilling has not been able to work in the surrounding area because of the heavy moisture content in the surface ground.

Winter kill of winter wheat has varied from light to heavy in the Havre LMA. Much of the winter kill acreage will probably be reseeded to spring grains. Outlook for employment in the agricultural field is improving with summer fallowing, and seeding of spring wheat.

Wholesale-retail trade and service industries continue tc show the most activity for employment.

HELENA LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Overall employment conditions in the Helena labor area displayed favorable changes again in April. The number of individuals included in the civilian labor force increased during the past four weeks, from 28,200 to a current total of 28,500. Of that total, the number of persons holding jobs was 27,300 compared with 26,800 in March. April's employment further represents a 3.0% increase over the 26,500 recorded twelve months ago. The number of unemployed persons, making up the remainder of the civilian labor force, declined from 1,400 in March to 1,200 in April and registered the same drop from April 1978. These shifts in the composition of the labor force resulted in a current unemployment rate of 4.4%, compared with 4.9% in March and 6.5% in February.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The economic situation in the Helena LMA appears very sound at the present time. Sustained good weather in recent weeks has had a positive effect on virtually every industrial sector. Construction and agriculture activities have likely gained the most; however, recreation-related trade and service businesses are also enjoying a seasonal resurgence.

As anticipated, the number of positions available in state government has increased in recent weeks. Reports from the local Job Service office also indicate a greater demand for workers in various sales jobs than has been experienced in the past.

In a major decision, the City Council of Helena has decided to prohibit the construction of a new shopping mall in town. A number of other large-scale projects are currently being considered, but further information is not expected until summer.

KALISPELL LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

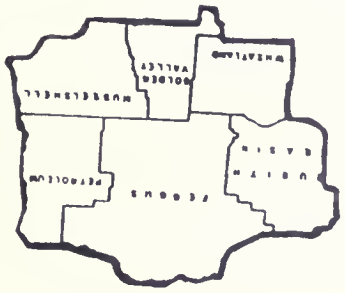
The civilian labor force showed a slight improvement with an increase of 100 from March to 39,500 in April. This reflects a 5.1% increase from the April 1978 figure of 37,600. Employment experienced similar gains by increasing from 36,000 in March to 36,300 in April. In comparison to the April 1978 employment figure of 33,800, a 7.4% increase is noted. The number of persons without jobs totaled 3,200 in April which was 200 less than the previous month. This year's count was 600 less than last April's count of 3,800. These jobless counts reflect unemployment rates of 8.1% in April, 8.5% in March, and 10.2% in April one year ago.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Complete relocation and modernization of a sawmill in the Columbia Falls area is underway. This multi-million dollar improvement has a completion date of March 1980. Approximately 770 workers at a Libby wood products plant honored an informational picket (April 26 to 28) by the International Woodworkers of America from Tacoma. Construction nears completion on the Lincoln County courthouse. Building permits are up from previous months as weather conditions are much improved. In Kalispell, building permits for 9 single resident units, 1 duplex and 4 major construction projects were issued in April. Contracts for highway and street projects in the LMA are being let at this time.

Recalls for construction workers in the LMA is currently being offset by layoffs of winter recreational facilities. As summer tourism activities commence, many of the laid off workers should be recalled. Major agricultural activities include tree planting, potato processing, and grain crop seeding. Orchard pruning is just underway. Recalls at local lumber mills are up, indicating the end of breakup this spring. Although road weight limitations affect some routes in the LMA, the supply of timber appears to be good. Local government activities include street repair. An area beehive manufacturer has been forced to layoff some of his employees during a typical seasonal slow. Recall and replacement hires are noted in the trade sector at this time. A fast food restaurant opened in Kalispell, creating employment for 20 workers. Food service workers are currently in short supply as many outlets open for another season and local schools are still in session.

LEWISTOWN LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The employment situation in the Lewistown area exhibited improved status again in April. The civilian labor force reached a level of 11,300; an increase of 700 persons over the previous month's total. The April 1979 figure reflects a gain of 300 persons over April 1978.

LEWISTOWN LMA (Cont.)

Those individuals who were employed numbered 10,900 for the month, compared with 10,100 in March. At the same time, those without jobs registered a decline of 100 from March to April, leaving 400 persons unemployed in April. These favorable changes in the labor market give April a 3.5% unemployment rate.

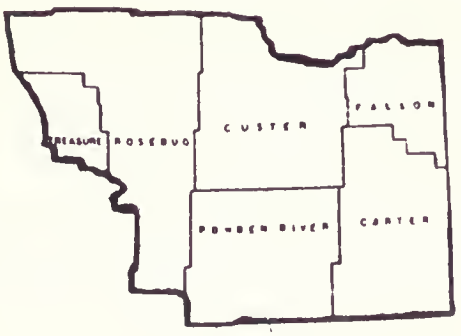
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A threatened dam burst caused emergency measures to be taken at War Horse lake, 12 miles northwest of Winnett. Fortunately, the valuable irrigation water was not lost and affected ranchers were able to return to the normal work in a few days. Demands for agricultural workers are increasing as farmers start to work in the fields.

A Lewistown housing rehabilitation project is in the contractors bidding phase. Between 20-40 houses will be improved under the HUD program. Lewistown is one of 6 Montana communities that will share in the $1,197,000 grant.

A 13,000 square foot bank was completed in April. Also, a statewide franchised pizza restaurant opened in Lewistown. Management plans to employ 12 persons from the community.

MILES CITY LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force grew by 900 persons from March's level, reaching a total of 15,700 in April. The figure is also 2.6% greater than that recorded one year ago.

Employment figures followed a rising course for the third consecutive month in the Miles City LMA. The number of people holding jobs was 15,100 during April, compared with 14,200 in March and 13,500 in February.

Unemployment statistics also showed positive movement during the past four weeks. With 600 persons included in the ranks of the jobless, a reduction of 100 was realized over the previous month. The combined effects of the employment and unemployment components of the civilian labor force yielded a healthy decline in the calculated unemployment rate from 4.5% in March to 3.7% in April.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

General economic conditions in the area appear very good at the present time. As in most parts of Montana, moderating weather is having a great effect upon outdoor-related business activity.

MILES CITY LMA (cont.)

The return of many construction workers to highway projects has accounted for much of the improvement in that sector, but other commercial and residential projects are also gaining momentum. The Miles City Council has approved a plan for 60 units of low-income housing, pending the availability of water and sewer facilities for the area. Ground has been broken for a new building to house a major grocery chain outlet. The store will be 30,000 square feet and is expected to be completed in the summer of 1980.

The Bucking Horse Sale in Miles City should provide additional impetus to the economy of the region during May. This annual event attracts many visitors to the area with a consequent boost in trade and service activity.

MISSOULA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

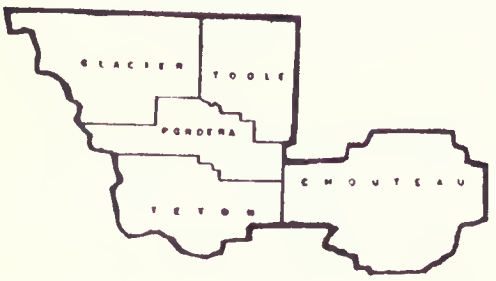
The Missoula area's civilian labor force expanded from 51,200 in March to 52,700 in April. Employment demonstrated similar gains. The March employment count of 47,800 was 1,400 less than the April figure of 49,200. In comparison to last year, this year's civilian labor force was 3,200, or 6.5% greater in April and employment was 3,200 greater, or 7.0%, than last year. Unemployment in the area moved from 3,400 to 3,500 in April. The increase in the number of unemployed was mostly attributed to the layoff at an area sawmill and unemployment insurance claims filed against other states by persons relocating in the area. The unemployment rate remained unchanged from March to April standing at 6.6%, while comparative figures for April last year indicated 3,500 unemployed for a 7.1% rate of unemployment.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Construction activities continue to highlight the economic activities of the LMA. Major projects started earlier in the year accompanied by new residential starts, proceed slightly ahead of seasonal trends. Highway projects and street repair activities are moving into full swing. Logging activities are back to normal as breakup is over. A temporary layoff of sawmill workers in the Thompson Falls area caused by a lack of dry wood occurred during breakup, but recalls of sawmill workers in nearly all mills has started to occur. Spring cleanup in many communities has put many persons to work. A labor dispute between the Missoula Meat Cutters Union Local #242 and the Employers Association of Western Montana started April 25. One local grocery chain was picketed by the strikers, while three other area grocery chains locked out meatcutters at their establishment. Retail clerks working at the groceries are honoring the picket lines of the meatcutters.

Demands for farm and ranch hands are reaching seasonal peaks with no worker shortages reported at this time. Many summer service establishments are reopening at this time, calling back many workers. The outlook for the LMA appears good, with no major occupational shortages likely to occur.

SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Employment statistics for the Shelby-Cut Bank LMA continued to improve in April. The civilian labor force totaled 18,100 for the month, compared with 17,000 in March and 17,600 in April 1978. The number of employed persons climbed by 1,200 from the previous month, totaling 17,300 in April. One year prior, the employed registered a count of 16,700.

The number of individuals on the jobless rolls declined to 800 in April. In both last month and April 1978, the unemployed count was 900 persons. The area unemployment rate dropped to 4.6% in April from 5.3% in March.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Poor weather conditions have again curtailed outside construction. Some minor work has been done on the Cut Bank shopping center. An addition to the shopping center shall be a 60 unit motel. Oilfield work still remains slow due to wet grounds. Exploration on the mountain front is to begin as soon as weather clears.

The agricultural industry was given a setback from cold weather. Approximately one-half of the winter wheat was killed and will need to be replanted. In other agricultural activity, sheep shearing is progressing well.

The employment outlook for the Shelby-Cut Bank LMA should be good through the summer months. As rigs become active again, many oil workers will return to work. Other areas of strong demand include: nursing positions, truck drivers, general laborers, press operators, and retail trade occupations.

MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Program	New Enrollees	Job Placements	End of Month Enrollment
WIN	285	180	406
CETA-CEP	102	48	264
CETA-INST.	23	23	249
CETA-OJT	37	23	86
JOB CORPS	72	35	503
PSE TITLE II	99	20	569
PSE TITLE VI	56	27	386
PSE TITLE VI-A	141	20	362
CETA - AWE	59	31	141
STIP I	0	1	1
HIRE II	15	16	78
STIP II	4	2	36
PSE II DAB	18	0	18

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S. 1/

(1967 = 100)

Group	APRIL 1979	*Percent Change From:* MARCH 1979	APRIL 1978
All Items	*211.5*	*1.1*	*10.4*

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED

APRIL 1979

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Covered Unemployment*
Non-White	*12.8%*
Female	*27.5%*
Youth	*8.3%*
Over 45	*21.1%*

1/ *The Consumer Price Index measures changes in prices of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, including families and single persons.*

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	Percent 1/ U. S.	
1977								
January	315.8	290.3	267.7	22.6	25.5	*8.1*	*8.3*	*
February	318.4	292.9	268.1	24.8	25.5	*8.0*	*8.5*	*
March	327.2	301.9	272.0	29.9	25.3	*7.7*	*7.9*	.1
April	336.1	313.8	276.8	37.0	22.3	*6.6*	*6.9*	*
May	343.4	323.1	285.0	38.1	20.3	*5.9*	*6.4*	*
June	360.0	338.5	295.2	43.3	21.5	*6.0*	*7.5*	.1
July	364.4	343.2	297.0	46.2	21.2	*5.8*	*7.0*	3.4
August	374.5	353.7	304.4	49.3	20.8	*5.5*	*6.8*	.2
September	362.5	343.3	304.9	38.4	19.2	*5.3*	*6.6*	.1
October	347.0	327.8	295.3	32.5	19.2	*5.5*	*6.3*	.4
November	345.0	323.7	295.8	27.9	21.3	*6.2*	*6.4*	.3
December	345.7	323.7	299.8	23.9	22.0	*6.4*	*6.0*	*
Avg.	345.0	323.0	288.5	34.5	22.0	*6.4*	*7.0*	.4
1978								
January	338.7	312.1	290.1	22.0	26.6	*7.8*	*7.0*	*
February	342.5	316.8	292.9	23.9	25.7	*7.5*	*6.9*	*
March	355.1	328.6	300.0	28.6	26.5	*7.5*	*6.6*	*
April	365.9	344.5	309.4	35.1	21.4	*5.9*	*5.8*	*
May	373.6	354.9	318.8	36.1	18.7	*5.0*	*5.5*	.1
June	395.1	371.4	330.2	41.2	23.7	*6.0*	*6.2*	.4
July	396.5	375.0	330.9	44.1	21.5	*5.4*	*6.3*	.2
August	393.6	373.4	326.2	47.2	20.2	*5.1*	*5.8*	.1
September	382.0	363.9	327.1	36.8	18.1	*4.7*	*6.0*	.1
October	368.1	350.8	319.5	31.3	17.3	*4.7*	*5.4*	.1
November	367.6	346.4	319.5	26.9	21.2	*5.8*	*5.5*	.1
December	361.2	338.1	315.0	23.1	23.1	*6.4*	*5.6*	.1
Avg.	370.0	348.0	315.0	33.0	22.0	*6.0*	*6.0*	.1
1979								
January	356.2	329.6	308.3	21.3	26.6	*7.5*	*6.4*	*
February	358.6	336.5	313.3	23.2	22.1	*6.2*	*6.4*	1.0
March	366.1	346.3	318.5	27.8	19.8	*5.4*	*6.1*	*
April	376.1	357.2	323.0	34.2	18.9	*5.0*	*5.5*	*
May	*382.4*	*365.1*	*329.8*	*35.3*	*17.3*	*4.5*		.5
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table II

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1977								
January	31.4	29.0	28.1	.9	2.4	*7.7*	*8.1*	*
February	31.4	29.3	28.3	1.0	2.1	*6.8*	*8.0*	*
March	32.1	29.9	28.7	1.2	2.2	*7.0*	*7.7*	*
April	32.2	30.3	28.8	1.5	1.9	*5.9*	*6.6*	*
May	32.7	30.8	29.3	1.5	1.9	*5.8*	*5.9*	*
June	34.1	32.0	30.3	1.7	2.1	*6.0*	*6.0*	*
July	34.3	32.2	30.4	1.8	2.1	*6.2*	*5.8*	.8
August	34.5	32.4	30.5	1.9	2.1	*6.1*	*5.5*	*
September	34.8	32.7	31.2	1.5	2.1	*6.0*	*5.3*	*
October	34.1	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.2	*6.3*	*5.5*	.3
November	34.0	32.0	30.9	1.1	2.0	*5.9*	*6.2*	.3
December	34.0	31.7	30.8	.9	2.3	*6.6*	*6.4*	*
Avg.	33.3	31.2	29.8	1.4	2.1	*6.4*	*6.4*	.1
1978								
January	33.2	30.4	29.5	.9	2.8	*8.3*	*7.8*	*
February	33.7	31.0	30.1	.9	2.7	*8.0*	*7.5*	*
March	34.7	32.1	31.0	1.1	2.6	*7.4*	*7.5*	*
April	34.5	32.5	31.1	1.4	2.0	*5.8*	*5.9*	*
May	35.0	33.1	31.7	1.4	1.9	*5.4*	*5.0*	*
June	37.1	34.3	32.7	1.6	2.8	*7.4*	*6.0*	*
July	37.1	34.8	33.1	1.7	2.3	*6.3*	*5.4*	*
August	37.0	34.7	32.8	1.9	2.3	*6.2*	*5.1*	*
September	36.8	34.5	33.0	1.5	2.3	*6.2*	*4.7*	*
October	36.0	33.9	32.7	1.2	2.1	*5.9*	*4.7*	*
November	36.3	33.6	32.5	1.1	2.7	*7.4*	*5.8*	*
December	35.6	32.8	31.9	.9	2.8	*7.9*	*6.4*	*
Avg.	35.6	33.2	31.9	1.3	2.4	*6.8*	*6.0*	*
1979								
January	34.9	31.9	31.1	.8	3.0	*8.6*	*7.5*	*
February	34.6	32.2	31.3	.9	2.4	*6.9*	*6.2*	*
March	34.9	32.8	31.9	1.1	2.1	*6.1*	*5.4*	*
April	35.2	33.2	31.8	1.4	2.0	*5.7*	*5.0*	*
May	*35.6*	*33.7*	*32.3*	*1.4*	*1.9*	*5.2*	*4.5*	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table III

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] County	Percent[1] State	
1977								
January	48.0	45.0	44.0	1.0	3.0	*6.2*	*8.1*	*
February	48.2	45.3	44.2	1.1	2.9	*6.0*	*8.0*	*
March	49.0	46.3	44.9	1.4	2.7	*5.6*	*7.7*	*
April	49.4	47.0	45.3	1.7	2.4	*4.8*	*6.6*	*
May	50.0	47.7	46.0	1.7	2.3	*4.6*	*5.9*	*
June	51.7	49.4	47.4	2.0	2.3	*4.4*	*6.0*	*
July	51.9	49.6	47.5	2.1	2.3	*4.4*	*5.8*	*
August	52.6	50.3	48.0	2.3	2.3	*4.3*	*5.5*	*
September	52.9	50.7	48.9	1.8	2.2	*4.2*	*5.3*	*
October	51.6	49.3	47.8	1.5	2.3	*4.4*	*5.5*	*
November	52.0	49.7	48.4	1.3	2.3	*4.4*	*6.2*	*
December	52.7	50.3	49.2	1.1	2.4	*4.6*	*6.4*	*
Avg.	50.8	48.4	46.8	1.6	2.4	*4.8*	*6.4*	*
1978								
January	51.1	48.0	47.0	1.0	3.1	*6.1*	*7.8*	*
February	51.4	48.5	47.4	1.1	2.9	*5.6*	*7.5*	*
March	52.9	49.7	48.4	1.3	3.2	*6.1*	*7.5*	*
April	53.8	51.5	49.9	1.6	2.3	*4.3*	*5.9*	*
May	53.8	51.7	50.0	1.7	2.1	*3.9*	*5.0*	*
June	55.7	53.0	51.1	1.9	2.7	*4.8*	*6.0*	*
July	55.3	53.0	51.0	2.0	2.3	*4.2*	*5.4*	*
August	55.0	52.7	50.5	2.2	2.3	*4.1*	*5.1*	*
September	55.5	53.4	51.7	1.7	2.1	*3.8*	*4.7*	*
October	54.6	52.8	51.4	1.4	1.8	*3.2*	*4.7*	*
November	55.2	52.6	51.4	1.2	2.6	*4.8*	*5.8*	*
December	54.4	51.7	50.6	1.1	2.7	*4.9*	*6.4*	*
Avg.	54.1	51.6	50.1	1.5	2.5	*4.6*	*6.0*	*
1979								
January	53.5	50.5	49.5	1.0	3.0	*5.7*	*7.5*	*
February	52.9	50.5	49.4	1.1	2.4	*4.5*	*6.2*	*
March	53.3	51.2	49.9	1.3	2.1	*3.9*	*5.4*	*
April	53.1	51.2	49.6	1.6	1.9	*3.6*	*5.0*	*
May	*53.8*	*52.0*	*50.4*	*1.6*	*1.8*	*3.3*	*4.5*	.3
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

April

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	April 1979	March 1979	April 1978	Net Changes to Current Month from: March 1979	April 1978
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	376.1	366.1	365.9	10.0	10.2
EMPLOYED PERSONS	357.2	346.3	344.5	10.9	12.7
Persons Employed in Agriculture	34.2	27.8	35.1	6.4	-.9
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	18.9	19.8	21.4	-.9	-2.5
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*5.0*	*5.4*	*5.9*	*-.4*	*-.9*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*5.0*	*4.4*	*5.8*	*.6*	*-.8*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*283.7*	*277.1*	*271.8*	*6.6*	*11.9*
MANUFACTURING	*26.4*	*26.4*	*24.7*	*0*	*1.7*
Durable Goods	*17.5*	*17.4*	*16.3*	*.1*	*1.2*
24 Lumber and Wood Products	*10.6*	*10.7*	*9.8*	*-.1*	*.8*
33 Primary Metal Industries	*3.2*	*3.2*	*3.2*	*0*	*0*
Other Durable Goods	*3.7*	*3.5*	*3.3*	*.2*	*.4*
Nondurable Goods	*8.9*	*9.0*	*8.4*	*-.1*	*.5*
20 Food and Kindred Products	*4.0*	*3.9*	*3.7*	*.1*	*.3*
27 Printing and Publishing	*2.2*	*2.3*	*2.2*	*-.1*	*.0*
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	*1.0*	*1.0*	*1.1*	*0*	*-.1*
Other Nondurable Goods	*1.7*	*1.8*	*1.4*	*-.1*	*.3*
MINING	*7.8*	*7.5*	*6.5*	*.3*	*1.3*
10 Metal Mining	*2.2*	*2.2*	*2.0*	*0*	*.2*
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	*2.3*	*2.2*	*1.9*	*.1*	*.4*
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	*3.3*	*3.1*	*2.6*	*.2*	*.7*
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	*16.2*	*14.0*	*15.3*	*2.2*	*.9*
15 General Building Contractors	*5.8*	*4.6*	*4.9*	*1.2*	*.9*
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	*4.4*	*3.7*	*4.9*	*.7*	*-.5*
17 Special Trade Contractors	*6.0*	*5.7*	*5.5*	*.3*	*.5*
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	*21.9*	*22.0*	*20.5*	*-.1*	*1.4*
40 Railroad Transportation	*6.7*	*6.7*	*6.3*	*0*	*.4*
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	*6.7*	*6.8*	*6.4*	*-.1*	*.3*
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	*8.5*	*8.5*	*7.9*	*0*	*.6*
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	*74.5*	*72.1*	*69.8*	*2.4*	*4.7*
Wholesale Trade	*17.8*	*17.0*	*16.3*	*.8*	*1.5*
Retail Trade	*56.7*	*55.1*	*53.6*	*1.6*	*3.1*
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	*7.9*	*8.0*	*8.0*	*-.1*	*-.1*
54 Food Stores	*7.7*	*7.6*	*7.3*	*.1*	*.4*
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	*8.8*	*8.6*	*8.5*	*.2*	*.3*
58 Eating and Drinking Places	*21.4*	*20.2*	*19.4*	*1.2*	*2.0*
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	*10.9*	*10.7*	*10.3*	*.2*	*.6*
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	*13.0*	*12.8*	*11.8*	*.2*	*1.2*
SERVICES	*53.2*	*52.5*	*51.1*	*.7*	*2.1*
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	*6.6*	*6.5*	*6.1*	*.1*	*.5*
72 Personal Services	*2.6*	*2.6*	*2.6*	*0*	*0*
80 Medical and other Health Services	*16.5*	*16.7*	*16.8*	*-.2*	*-.3*
Other Services	*27.5*	*26.7*	*25.6*	*.8*	*1.9*
GOVERNMENT	*70.7*	*69.8*	*72.1*	*.9*	*-1.4*
91 Federal Government	*11.6*	*11.2*	*12.5*	*.4*	*-.9*
92 State Colleges and Universities	*8.5*	*8.5*	*8.9*	*0*	*-.4*
92 Other State Government	*11.0*	*11.1*	*11.2*	*-.1*	*-.2*
93 Local Education	*25.7*	*25.4*	*25.8*	*.3*	*-.1*
93 Other Local Government	*13.9*	*13.6*	*13.6*	*.3*	*.3*

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

April

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	April 1979	March 1979	April 1978	Net Changes to Current Month from: March 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: April 1978
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	35.2	34.9	34.5	.3	.7
EMPLOYED PERSONS	33.2	32.8	32.5	.4	.7
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.4	1.1	1.4	.3	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.0	2.1	2.0	-.1	0
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*5.7*	*6.1*	*5.8*	*-.4*	*-.1*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*5.8*	*5.4*	*8.5*	*.4*	*-2.7*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*30.6*	*30.0*	*29.4*	*+.6*	*+1.2*
Manufacturing	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*0*	*0*
Contract Construction	*1.6*	*1.6*	*1.5*	*0*	*+.1*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*0*	*0*
Trade	*10.1*	*9.9*	*9.7*	*+.2*	*+.4*
Wholesale Trade	*2.6*	*2.6*	*2.6*	*0*	*0*
Retail Trade	*7.5*	*7.3*	*7.1*	*+.2*	*+.4*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*0*	*0*
Services and Mining	*6.9*	*6.6*	*6.4*	*+.3*	*+.5*
Government	*6.3*	*6.2*	*6.1*	*+.1*	*+.2*
Federal Government	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*0*	*0*
State and Local Government	*4.4*	*4.3*	*4.2*	*+.1*	*+.2*

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.
2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
Current month preliminary. *Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

April

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	April 1979	March 1979	April 1978	Net Changes to Current Month from: March 1979	April 1978
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	53.1	53.3	53.8	-.2	-.7
EMPLOYED PERSONS	51.2	51.2	51.5	0	-.3
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.6	1.3	1.6	.3	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	1.9	2.1	2.3	-.2	-.4
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*3.6*	*3.9*	*4.3*	*-.3*	*-.7*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*3.7*	*3.2*	*4.4*	*.5*	*-.7*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*44.8*	*44.9*	*44.7*	*+.5*	*+5.2*
Manufacturing	*4.0*	*4.0*	*4.0*	*0*	*0*
Contract Construction	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.3*	*0*	*-.2*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*4.2*	*4.2*	*3.8*	*0*	*+.4*
Trade	*15.3*	*15.5*	*15.1*	*-.2*	*+.2*
Wholesale Trade	*5.3*	*5.3*	*5.2*	*0*	*+.1*
Retail Trade	*10.0*	*10.2*	*9.9*	*-.2*	*+.1*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.2*	*2.2*	*2.1*	*0*	*+.1*
Services and Mining	*9.4*	*9.4*	*9.3*	*0*	*+.1*
Government	*7.6*	*7.5*	*8.1*	*+.1*	*-.5*
Federal Government	*1.5*	*1.4*	*1.4*	*+.1*	*+.1*
State and Local Government	*6.1*	*6.1*	*6.7*	*0*	*-.6*

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Feb. 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1979	Feb. 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1979	Feb. 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1979	Feb. 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1979
STATEWIDE	358.6	366.1	376.1	336.5	346.3	357.2	22.1	19.8	18.9	6.2	5.4	5.0
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.6	34.9	35.2	32.2	32.8	33.2	2.4	2.1	2.0	6.9	6.1	5.7
BILLINGS SMSA	52.9	53.3	53.1	50.5	51.2	51.2	2.4	2.1	1.9	4.5	3.9	3.6
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	271.1	277.9	287.8	253.8	262.3	272.8	17.3	15.6	15.0	6.4	5.6	5.2
ANACONDA-BUTTE	35.0	35.3	36.6	32.7	33.3	34.5	2.3	2.0	2.1	6.7	5.6	5.7
BOZEMAN	26.2	26.6	27.5	24.8	25.4	26.3	1.4	1.2	1.2	5.2	4.4	4.2
GLASGOW	15.3	16.0	16.9	14.6	15.3	16.2	.7	.7	.7	4.7	4.2	4.0
GLENDIVE	13.2	13.9	14.8	12.8	13.5	14.4	.4	.4	.4	3.4	3.1	2.7
HARDIN-RED LODGE	11.9	12.4	13.2	11.3	11.9	12.8	.6	.5	.4	4.9	4.3	3.3
HAVRE	12.1	12.4	13.0	11.4	11.8	12.4	.7	.6	.6	6.0	5.2	4.3
HELENA	28.0	28.2	28.5	26.2	26.8	27.3	1.8	1.4	1.2	6.5	4.9	4.4
KALISPELL	38.4	39.4	39.5	35.2	36.0	36.3	3.2	3.4	3.2	8.4	8.5	8.1
LEWISTOWN	10.1	10.6	11.3	9.6	10.1	10.9	.5	.5	.4	4.9	4.4	3.5
MILES CITY	14.3	14.9	15.7	13.5	14.2	15.1	.8	.7	.6	5.3	4.5	3.7
MISSOULA	50.3	51.2	52.7	46.6	47.8	49.2	3.7	3.4	3.5	7.3	6.6	6.6
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.3	17.0	18.1	15.2	16.1	17.3	1.1	.9	.8	6.9	5.3	4.6

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Totals may not add due to rounding.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Apr. 1979	Apr. 1978	Percent Change 1978-1979	Apr. 1979	Apr. 1978	Percent Change 1978-1979	Apr. 1979	Apr. 1978	Net Change 1978-1979	Apr. 1979	Apr. 1978	Net Change 1978-1979
STATEWIDE	376.1	365.9	*2.8*	357.2	344.5	*3.7*	18.9	21.4	*-2.5*	5.0	5.9	*-.9*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35.2	34.5	*2.0*	33.2	32.5	*2.2*	2.0	2.0	*0*	5.7	5.8	*-.1*
BILLINGS SMSA	53.1	53.8	*-1.3*	51.2	51.5	*-.6*	1.9	2.3	*-.4*	3.6	4.3	*-.7*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	287.8	277.6	*3.7*	272.8	260.5	*4.7*	15.0	17.1	*-2.1*	5.2	6.2	*-1.0*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	36.6	35.7	*2.5*	34.5	33.2	*3.9*	2.1	2.5	*-.4*	5.7	7.0	*-1.3*
BOZEMAN	27.5	26.3	*4.6*	26.3	25.1	*4.8*	1.2	1.2	*0*	4.2	4.4	*-.2*
GLASGOW	16.9	16.7	*1.2*	16.2	15.8	*2.5*	.7	.9	*-.2*	4.0	5.2	*-1.2*
GLENDIVE	14.8	14.6	*1.4*	14.4	14.1	*2.1*	.4	.5	*-.1*	2.7	3.7	*-1.0*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.2	12.5	*5.3*	12.8	11.9	*7.6*	.4	.6	*-.2*	3.3	4.9	*-1.6*
HAVRE	13.0	12.8	*1.6*	12.4	12.1	*2.5*	.6	.7	*-.1*	4.3	5.4	*-1.1*
HELENA	28.5	27.9	*2.2*	27.3	26.5	*3.0*	1.2	1.4	*-.2*	4.4	5.1	*-.7*
KALISPELL	39.5	37.6	*5.1*	36.3	33.8	*7.4*	3.2	3.8	*-.6*	8.1	10.2	*-2.1*
LEWISTOWN	11.3	11.0	*2.7*	10.9	10.5	*3.8*	.4	.5	*-.1*	3.5	4.2	*-.7*
MILES CITY	15.7	15.3	*2.6*	15.1	14.7	*2.7*	.6	.6	*0*	3.7	4.1	*-.4*
MISSOULA	52.7	49.5	*6.5*	49.2	46.0	*7.0*	3.5	3.5	*0*	6.6	7.1	*-.5*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	18.1	17.6	*2.8*	17.3	16.7	*3.6*	.8	.9	*-.1*	4.6	4.9	*-.3*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Totals may not add due to rounding.

TABLE XI A

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
APRIL 1979

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	376141	357224	18917	5.0
CASCADE	35213	33210	2003	5.7
YELLOWSTONE	53126	51240	1886	3.6
BEAVERHEAD	4528	4392	136	3.0
BIG HORN	6290	6058	232	3.7
BLAINE	3206	3014	192	6.0
BROADWATER	1735	1690	45	2.6
CARBON	3154	3034	120	3.8
CARTER	901	835	66	7.3
CHOUTEAU	3131	3069	62	2.0
CUSTER	6089	5890	199	3.3
DANIELS	1475	1442	33	2.2
DAWSON	5832	5635	197	3.4
DEER LODGE	6302	5790	512	8.1
FALLON	2249	2200	49	2.2
FERGUS	6300	6092	208	3.3
FLATHEAD	23053	21282	1771	7.7
GALLATIN	20600	19823	777	3.8
GARFIELD	878	833	45	5.1
GLACIER	5584	5121	463	8.3
GOLDEN VALLEY	404	391	13	3.2
GRANITE	1556	1467	89	5.7
HILL	8645	8312	333	3.9
JEFFERSON	2175	2046	129	5.9
JUDITH BASIN	1247	1149	98	7.9
LAKE	8724	8264	460	5.3
LEWIS AND CLARK	24599	23529	1070	4.3
LIBERTY	1100	1070	30	2.7
LINCOLN	7726	6753	973	12.6
MC CONE	1235	1219	16	1.3
MADISON	2216	2160	56	2.5
MEAGHER	1015	970	45	4.4
MINERAL	1608	1454	154	9.6
MISSOULA	38739	36422	2317	6.0
MUSSELSHELL	1767	1721	46	2.6
PARK	5872	5548	324	5.5
PETROLEUM	331	329	2	.6
PHILLIPS	2733	2618	115	4.2
PONDERA	3549	3423	126	3.6
POWDER RIVER	1210	1173	37	3.1
POWELL	4150	3932	218	5.3
PRAIRIE	845	818	27	3.2
RAVALLI	8382	7763	619	7.4
RICHLAND	5319	5218	101	1.9
ROOSEVELT	5043	4807	236	4.7
ROSEBUD	4694	4489	205	4.4
SANDERS	3940	3546	394	10.0
SHERIDAN	2690	2645	45	1.7
SILVER BOW	17796	16734	1062	6.0
STILLWATER	2170	2100	70	3.2
SWEET GRASS	1656	1638	18	1.1
TETON	2959	2867	92	3.1
TOOLE	2943	2848	95	3.2
TREASURE	526	510	16	3.0
VALLEY	4940	4693	247	5.0
WHEATLAND	1273	1249	24	1.9
WIBAUX	718	699	19	2.6

TABLE XI B

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
MARCH 1979

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	366087	346270	19817	5.4
CASCADE	34927	32797	2130	6.1
YELLOWSTONE	53316	51218	2098	3.9
BEAVERHEAD	4304	4143	161	3.7
BIG HORN	5801	5535	266	4.6
BLAINE	3018	2811	207	6.9
BROADWATER	1675	1608	67	4.0
CARBON	3058	2889	169	5.5
CARTER	623	753	70	8.5
CHOUTEAU	2811	2743	68	2.4
CUSTER	5881	5599	282	4.8
DANIELS	1423	1389	34	2.4
DAWSON	5478	5285	193	3.5
DEER LODGE	6021	5644	377	6.3
FALLON	2151	2105	46	2.1
FERGUS	5862	5644	218	3.7
FLATHEAD	23090	21283	1807	7.8
GALLATIN	20000	19270	730	3.7
GARFIELD	811	755	56	6.9
GLACIER	5316	4867	449	8.4
GOLDEN VALLEY	369	352	17	4.6
GRANITE	1476	1381	95	6.4
HILL	8329	7939	390	4.7
JEFFERSON	2272	2114	158	7.0
JUDITH BASIN	1165	1048	117	10.0
LAKE	8505	8014	491	5.8
LEWIS AND CLARK	24197	23044	1153	4.8
LIBERTY	1061	1018	43	4.1
LINCOLN	7783	6735	1048	13.5
MC CONE	1164	1143	21	1.8
MADISON	2058	1988	70	3.4
MEAGHER	942	882	60	6.4
MINERAL	1619	1461	158	9.8
MISSOULA	37959	35689	2270	6.0
MUSSELSHELL	1690	1610	80	4.7
PARK	5677	5295	382	6.7
PETROLEUM	295	292	3	1.0
PHILLIPS	2542	2433	109	4.3
PONDERA	3348	3203	145	4.3
POWDER RIVER	1126	1085	41	3.6
POWELL	4012	3822	190	4.7
PRAIRIE	777	748	29	3.7
RAVALLI	7954	7333	621	7.8
RICHLAND	4992	4890	102	2.0
ROOSEVELT	4851	4608	243	5.0
ROSEBUD	4426	4216	210	4.7
SANDERS	3704	3350	354	9.6
SHERIDAN	2540	2497	43	1.7
SILVER BOW	17446	16365	1083	6.2
STILLWATER	2058	1970	88	4.3
SWEET GRASS	1544	1525	19	1.2
TETON	2813	2709	104	3.7
TOOLE	2735	2605	130	4.8
TREASURE	449	428	21	4.7
VALLEY	4606	4361	245	5.3
WHEATLAND	1172	1147	25	2.1
WIBAUX	663	632	31	4.7

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

TABLE X

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

April 1979

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
				Net Change to Current Month From:					
	Apr. 1979 1/	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1978	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1978	Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
						April 1979		March 1979	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	124.7	124.2	119.5	.5	5.2	283.7	*44.0*	277.1	*44.8*
Manufacturing	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	.1	26.4	*11.4*	26.4	*11.4*
Mining	.4	.4	.4	0	0	7.8	*5.1*	7.5	*5.3*
Contract Construction	1.3	1.3	1.4	0	-.1	16.2	*8.0*	14.0	*9.3*
Transportation & Public Utilities .	4.2	4.2	3.8	0	.4	21.9	*19.2*	22.0	*19.1*
Wholesale & Retail Trade	35.7	35.7	32.2	0	3.5	74.5	*47.9*	72.1	*49.5*
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	8.4	8.4	8.0	0	.4	13.0	*64.6*	12.8	*65.6*
Services	34.8	35.0	35.1	-.2	-.3	53.2	*65.4*	52.5	*66.7*
Government 2/	36.9	36.2	35.7	.7	1.2	70.7	*52.2*	69.8	*51.9*

1/ *Current month preliminary.* *Revised to 1978 Benchmark.* *Establishment Series began January 1974.*

2/ *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.*

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1978

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	114.7	115.0	116.9	119.5	120.8	123.8	121.3	122.1	120.4	122.2	122.3	127.7	120.6
Manufacturing	2.9	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.0
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4
Contract Construction	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Transport. & Public Utilities.	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	30.7	30.5	31.2	32.2	33.2	33.7	32.9	35.3	35.5	35.3	35.2	38.5	33.7
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	7.4	7.7	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.2	8.3	8.4	7.9	7.9	8.0	7.8	8.0
Services	33.8	34.0	33.4	35.2	35.4	37.6	36.6	34.0	34.3	34.1	34.3	35.2	34.8
Government	34.9	35.3	35.5	35.7	35.8	35.6	34.6	35.4	33.7	35.6	35.8	37.2	35.4

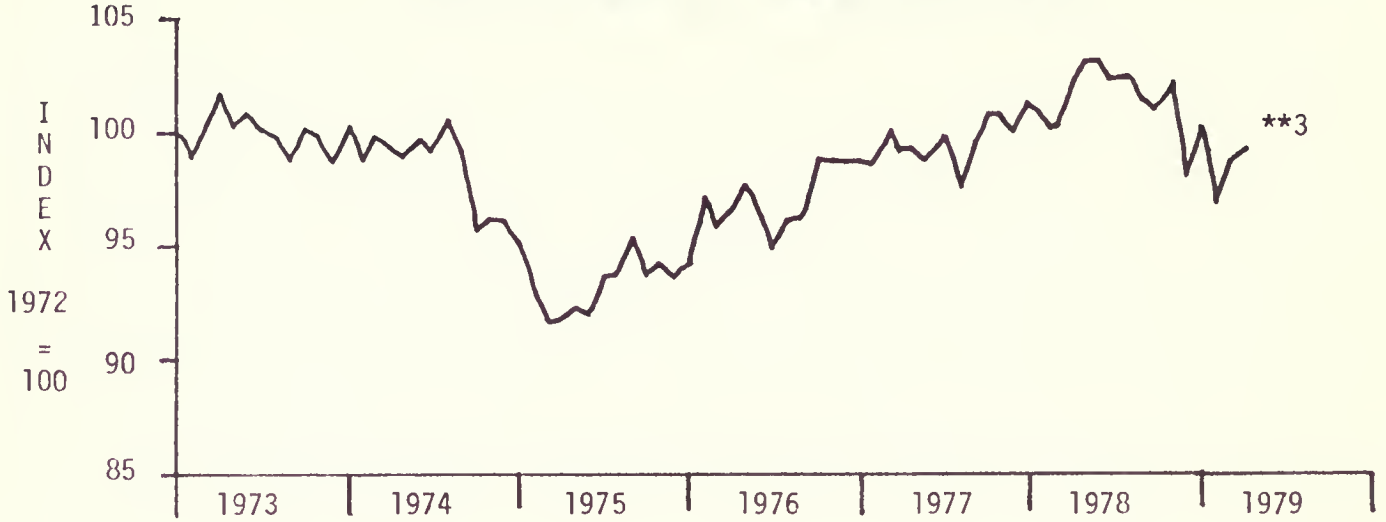
1979

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	126.7	122.4	124.2
Manufacturing.....	3.1	3.1	3.0
Mining	.4	.4	.4
Contract Construction.....	1.3	1.3	1.3
Transport. & Public Utilities.	4.1	4.1	4.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	38.7	35.6	35.7
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	8.4	8.3	8.4
Services.....	35.0	34.8	35.0
Government.....	35.7	34.8	36.2

1/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Establishment Series began January, 1974. Revised to 1978 Benchmark. Prepared by Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS*



Composite Index of
SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS

1978	
January	100.6
February	100.2
March	102.2
April	103.1
May	103.1
June	102.4
July	102.5
August	101.5
September	101.0
October	102.2
November	98.0
December	100.4
1979	
January	96.7
February	98.8
March	99.2
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

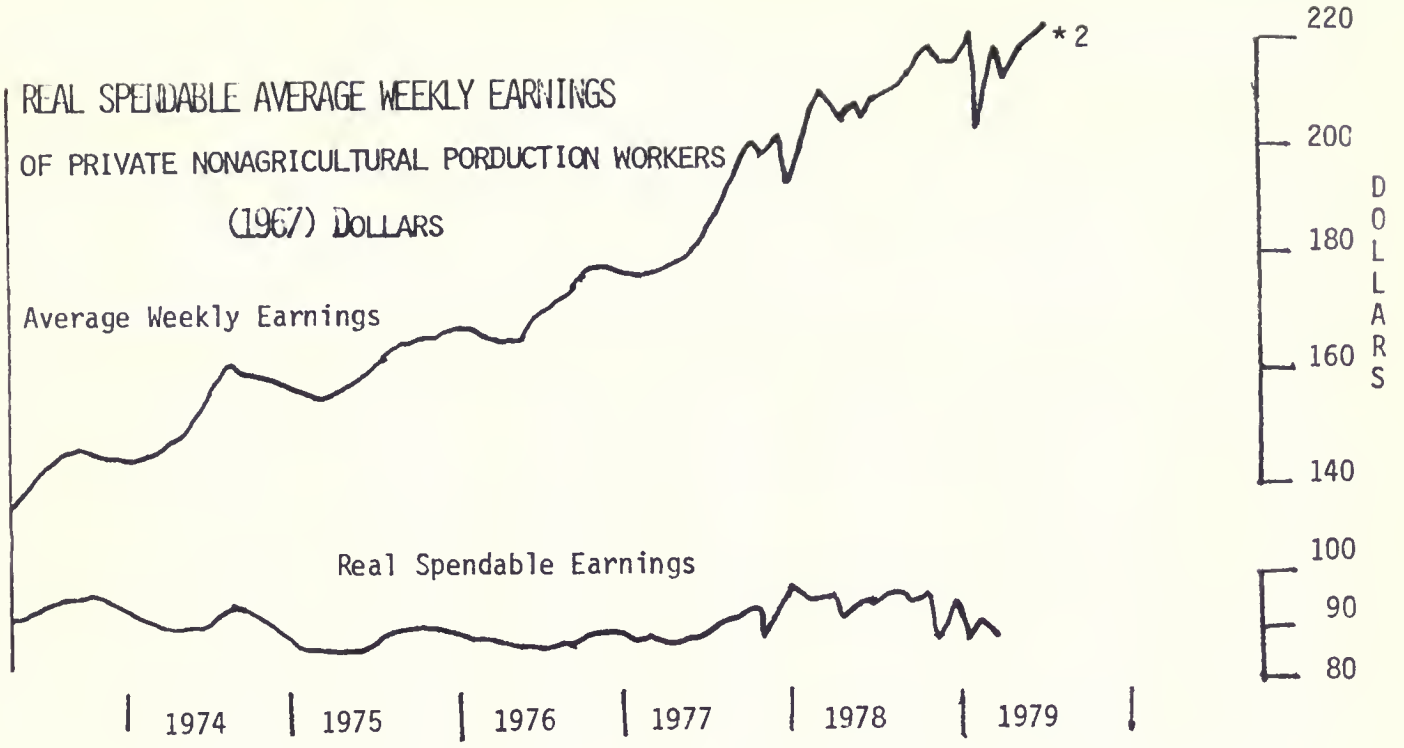
MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

Weekly initial claims and building permits were the only components that improved from the preceding month. Accessions, layoffs, average weekly hours in manufacturing and manufacturing employment registered negative movements from February. As a result, declining components prevailed in producing the change in the index this month.

The erratic movement in the composite index provides little indication of the formation of a trend at this time. No major contributing factors are present to explain the decline from the previous month or from March of last year. In upcoming months the index should stabilize with slow growth expected.

* *Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.*

** *Indicates last month of plotted data.*



	Mar. 1979	Feb. 1978	Mar. 1978
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	221.43	219.57	203.28
Taxes Withheld	33.37	32.79	31.19
Spendable Earnings	188.06	186.79	172.10
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	98.21	96.60	81.39
Real Spendable Earnings in 1967 Dollars	89.85	90.19	90.71

	Average Weekly Earnings	Real Spendable Earnings
1978		
July	217.49	92.67
Aug.	214.68	91.19
Sep.	215.27	90.81
Oct.	218.40	91.15
Nov.	200.99	84.45
Dec.	217.56	89.87
1979		
Jan.	215.42	89.79
Feb.	219.57	90.19
Mar.	221.43	89.85
Apr.		
May		
June		
July		
Aug.		
Sep.		
Oct.		
Nov.		
Dec.		

REAL SPENDABLE EARNINGS

Real spendable earnings fell by 1.2% in March from the previous month. The major factor causing the decline was the increase in the Consumer Price Index of 1.1% for the same period. It is not anticipated that real spendable earnings will demonstrate a continued decline in future months. Rather, a mixed movement will be demonstrated with declines followed by gains for the upcoming months.

* *Indicates Last Month of Plotted Data* *p: Preliminary*

1/ Average weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	Percent 1/ U. S.	
1977								
January	336.8	315.4	281.4	34.0	21.4	6.3	7.4	*
February	338.6	316.6	281.8	34.8	22.0	6.5	7.6	*
March	339.1	316.8	281.9	34.9	22.3	6.6	7.4	.1
April	339.8	317.5	282.0	35.5	22.3	6.6	7.1	*
May	342.4	319.3	284.4	34.9	23.1	6.7	7.1	*
June	339.5	319.8	284.8	35.0	19.7	5.8	7.1	.1
July	343.7	321.8	286.6	35.2	21.9	6.4	6.9	3.4
August	352.0	329.5	294.7	34.8	22.5	6.4	7.0	.2
September	353.1	330.4	296.3	34.1	22.7	6.4	6.8	.1
October	349.4	327.0	293.3	33.7	22.4	6.4	6.8	.4
November	350.3	328.2	294.6	33.6	22.1	6.3	6.7	.3
December	355.1	333.5	299.9	33.6	21.6	6.1	6.3	*
Avg.	345.0	323.0	288.5	34.5	22.0	6.4	7.0	.4
1978								
January	359.8	337.4	304.0	33.4	22.4	6.2	6.3	*
February	362.6	340.4	306.7	33.7	22.2	6.1	6.1	*
March	367.3	343.8	310.2	33.6	23.5	6.4	6.2	*
April	369.6	348.0	314.7	33.3	21.6	5.8	6.1	*
May	372.7	351.2	318.1	33.1	21.5	5.8	6.1	.1
June	374.8	352.8	319.8	33.0	22.0	5.9	5.8	.4
July	375.8	353.6	320.7	32.9	22.2	5.9	6.1	.2
August	371.1	349.3	316.6	32.7	21.8	5.9	5.9	.1
September	372.4	350.8	318.2	32.6	21.6	5.8	5.9	.1
October	370.6	350.0	317.4	32.6	20.6	5.6	5.8	.1
November	372.8	350.7	318.0	32.7	22.1	5.9	5.8	.1
December	370.5	347.9	315.1	32.8	22.6	6.1	5.9	.1
Avg.	370.0	348.0	315.0	33.0	22.0	6.0	6.0	.1
1979								
January	377.4	354.9	322.2	32.7	22.5	6.0	5.8	*
February	378.7	360.1	327.1	33.0	18.6	4.9	5.7	1.0
March	378.2	361.4	328.7	32.7	16.8	4.4	5.7	*
April	379.9	360.8	328.4	32.4	19.1	5.0	5.8	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

Table XIII

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1977								
January	32.7	30.6	29.2	1.4	2.1	6.5	6.3	*
February	32.9	30.9	29.5	1.4	2.0	6.1	6.5	*
March	32.6	30.6	29.2	1.4	2.0	6.2	6.6	*
April	32.6	30.6	29.2	1.4	2.0	6.0	6.6	*
May	32.7	30.6	29.2	1.4	2.1	6.4	6.7	*
June	32.8	31.0	29.6	1.4	1.8	5.4	5.8	*
July	33.3	31.2	29.8	1.4	2.1	6.3	6.4	.8
August	33.5	31.3	29.9	1.4	2.2	6.7	6.4	*
September	34.2	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.3	6.8	6.4	*
October	34.0	31.6	30.3	1.3	2.4	6.9	6.4	.3
November	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	6.3	6.3	.3
December	34.5	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.3	6.7	6.1	*
Avg.	33.3	31.2	29.8	1.4	2.1	6.4	6.4	.1
1978								
January	34.5	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.5	7.1	6.2	*
February	35.1	32.5	31.2	1.3	2.6	7.3	6.1	*
March	35.0	32.7	31.4	1.3	2.3	6.7	6.4	*
April	35.9	32.8	31.5	1.3	3.1	8.5	5.8	*
May	36.1	33.0	31.7	1.3	3.1	8.6	5.8	*
June	35.9	33.4	32.1	1.3	2.5	6.8	5.9	*
July	36.0	33.7	32.4	1.3	2.3	6.4	5.9	*
August	36.0	33.6	32.3	1.3	2.4	6.7	5.9	*
September	36.2	33.7	32.4	1.3	2.5	7.0	5.8	*
October	35.9	33.6	32.3	1.3	2.3	6.4	5.6	*
November	36.2	33.4	32.1	1.3	2.8	7.7	5.9	*
December	36.1	33.2	31.9	1.3	2.9	8.0	6.1	*
Avg.	35.6	33.2	31.9	1.3	2.4	6.8	6.0	*
1979								
January	36.2	33.5	32.2	1.3	2.7	7.4	6.0	*
February	36.1	33.8	32.5	1.3	2.3	6.3	4.9	*
March	35.3	33.4	32.3	1.3	1.9	5.4	4.4	*
April	35.6	33.5	32.2	1.3	2.1	5.8	5.0	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*
* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table XIV

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1977								
January	49.5	47.0	45.5	1.5	2.5	5.0	6.3	*
February	50.0	47.5	45.9	1.6	2.5	5.1	6.5	*
March	50.2	47.8	46.2	1.6	2.4	4.8	6.6	*
April	49.9	47.4	45.7	1.7	2.5	5.0	6.6	*
May	50.5	47.7	46.1	1.6	2.8	5.5	6.7	*
June	50.0	48.1	46.5	1.6	1.9	3.9	5.8	*
July	50.5	48.2	46.6	1.6	2.3	4.6	6.4	*
August	51.6	49.2	47.6	1.6	2.4	4.7	6.4	*
September	52.1	49.6	48.0	1.6	2.5	4.9	6.4	*
October	51.2	48.6	47.1	1.5	2.6	5.1	6.4	*
November	51.9	49.4	47.9	1.5	2.5	4.8	6.3	*
December	52.4	50.0	48.5	1.5	2.4	4.5	6.1	*
Avg.	50.8	48.4	46.8	1.6	2.4	4.8	6.4	*
1978								
January	52.7	50.1	48.6	1.5	2.6	5.0	6.2	*
February	53.2	50.7	49.1	1.6	2.5	4.8	6.1	*
March	54.1	51.2	49.6	1.6	2.9	5.4	6.4	*
April	54.2	51.8	50.2	1.6	2.4	4.4	5.8	*
May	54.2	51.7	50.2	1.5	2.5	4.7	5.8	*
June	54.1	51.7	50.2	1.5	2.4	4.4	5.9	*
July	54.1	51.7	50.2	1.5	2.4	4.4	5.9	*
August	54.0	51.6	50.1	1.5	2.4	4.5	5.9	*
September	54.7	52.3	50.8	1.5	2.4	4.4	5.8	*
October	54.2	52.1	50.6	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.6	*
November	55.1	52.3	50.8	1.5	2.8	5.2	5.9	*
December	54.1	51.5	50.0	1.5	2.6	4.9	6.1	*
Avg.	54.1	51.6	50.1	1.5	2.5	4.6	6.0	*
1979								
January	54.6	52.0	50.5	1.5	2.6	4.7	6.0	*
February	54.7	52.7	51.2	1.5	2.0	3.7	4.9	*
March	54.6	52.8	51.3	1.5	1.8	3.2	4.4	*
April	53.6	51.6	50.1	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.0	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

TABLE XV

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	April 1979	March 1979	April 1978	April 1979	March 1979	April 1978	April 1979	March 1979	April 1978
TOTAL PRIVATE	$221.04	$221.43	$207.77	36.0	36.3	35.7	$6.14	$6.10	$5.82
MANUFACTURING	341.51	339.08	323.04	41.8	41.2	42.9	8.o7	8.23	7.53
Durable Goods	339.44	335.34	319.40	41.7	40.5	42.7	8.14	8.28	7.48
Primary Metal Industries	379.09	379.09	328.32	40.2	40.2	39.7	9.43	9.43	8.27
Nondurable Goods	346.90	346.72	330.81	42.1	42.7	43.3	8.24	8.12	7.64
Food and Kindred Products	270.27	270.86	270.73	42.9	43.2	45.5	6.30	6.27	5.95
MINING	458.30	453.02	372.75	48.4	48.6	42.6	9.43	9.36	8.75
Metal Mining	452.97	449.85	394.61	40.3	40.6	39.9	11.24	11.08	9.89
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	347.69	348.95	406.55	34.7	35.0	34.6	1C.02	9.97	11.75
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	330.65	329.58	305.34	42.5	42.2	42.0	7.78	7.81	7.27
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	320.68	319.50	306.68	42.7	42.6	45.3	7.51	7.50	6.77
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	170.94	177.32	161.05	33.0	34.1	32.8	5.10	5.20	4.91
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	148.17	143.22	148.47	34.7	34.1	36.3	4.27	4.20	4.09
SERVICES	141.20	138.51	132.73	33.7	33.7	33.1	4.19	4.11	4.01

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE XVI

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

April 1979

	ACCESSION RATES									SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Recalls			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Mar. 1979	Feb. 1979	Mar. 1978	Mar. 1979	Feb. 1979	Mar. 1978	Mar. 1979	Feb. 1979	Mar. 1978	Mar. 1979	Feb. 1979	Mar. 1978	Mar. 1979	Feb. 1979	Mar. 1978	Mar. 1979	Feb. 1979	Mar. 1978
MANUFACTURING	2.6	2.2	2.9	1.2	1.6	1.6	.4	.5	.8	3.7	1.8	3.0	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.8	.5	1.3
Durable Goods	3.1	1.6	3.6	1.4	.7	1.8	.4	.7	1.0	2.1	1.0	3.6	.5	.5	1.3	1.1	.3	1.9
Primary Metal Industries	2.9	4.4	1.4	.6	.8	.2	.4	3.0	.9	3.6	1.6	1.4	.9	.2	.4	1.3	.8	.3
Nondurable Goods	1.5	3.2	1.6	.7	3.0	1.1	.3	.1	.4	6.9	3.2	1.8	2.3	1.9	1.2	3.2	.9	.2
MINING	.5	8.0	8.7	*	4.7	7.7	.5	3.0	.6	2.5	6.6	1.1	1.5	5.2	.2	.5	.8	.1
Metal Mining	1.6	1.0	2.2	*	0	.3	1.6	0	1.1	1.5	1.6	2.4	*	0	.4	0	0	.2

* *Less than .05.*

Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Series began January 1958.

TABLE XVII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	April 1979	April 1978	Year to Date 1979	Year to Date 1978
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	26	20	142	132
MINING	21	7	70	25
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	62	63	264	279
MANUFACTURING	17	16	87	71
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	16	10	86	62
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	77	85	402	421
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	26	25	180	159
SERVICES	110	117	519	480
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	5	1	26	8
STATE TOTAL	360	344	1947	1637

TABLE XVIII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS April 1979	April 1978	Year to Date 1979	1978
STATE OF MONTANA	360	344	1776	1637
GREAT FALLS SMSA	28	28	135	144
BILLINGS SMSA	52	47	297	263
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	27	28	121	120
Beaverhead	6	7	17	21
Deer Lodge	0	1	6	10
Granite	0	0	6	4
Madison	3	0	16	16
Powell	3	2	5	12
Silver Bow	10	18	56	57
BOZEMAN LMA	29	36	112	153
Gallatin	22	29	106	123
Meagher	0	0	3	2
Park	7	7	32	28
GLASGOW LMA	8	7	57	34
Daniels	2	0	6	2
Phillips	1	1	12	5
Roosevelt	1	4	9	14
Sheridan	3	1	10	4
Valley	1	1	20	9
GLENDIVE LMA	17	5	100	53
Dawson	3	1	22	14
Garfield	0	3	2	7
McCone	3	0	5	3
Prairie	0	0	3	6
Richland	11	1	65	23
Wibaux	0	0	3	0
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	8	16	52	57
Big Horn	6	4	17	18
Carbon	0	3	20	19
Stillwater	1	5	7	9
Sweet Grass	1	4	8	11

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS April 1979	April 1978	Year to Date 1979	1978
HAVRE LMA	9	5	43	45
Blaine	1	1	7	9
Hill	8	2	32	24
Liberty	0	2	4	12
HELENA LMA	31	31	154	133
Broadwater	4	1	11	4
Jefferson	3	1	15	10
Lewis and Clark	27	29	128	119
KALISPELL LMA	56	49	227	195
Flathead	36	36	149	138
Lake	14	5	39	31
Lincoln	6	8	39	26
LEWISTOWN LMA	7	8	31	31
Fergus	3	6	18	21
Golden Valley	0	0	1	0
Judith Basin	0	2	4	2
Musselshell	3	0	6	4
Petroleum	0	0	0	1
Wheatland	1	0	2	3
MILES CITY LMA	5	5	46	42
Carter	0	0	0	4
Custer	4	3	24	12
Fallon	1	2	11	6
Powder River	0	0	1	4
Rosebud	0	0	9	16
Treasure	0	0	1	0
MISSOULA LMA	65	49	303	273
Mineral	0	1	5	5
Missoula	48	35	226	202
Ravalli	11	11	55	49
Sanders	6	2	17	17
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	18	30	79	94
Chouteau	0	7	18	16
Glacier	5	7	15	26
Pondera	6	7	19	21
Teton	2	2	7	10
Toole	5	7	20	21

Source of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons; to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week and for how many potential weeks is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individual's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under the Montana Law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

ETA5-1598 DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

APRIL 1979

COUNTY		COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD		187	14,637.10
BIGHORN		228	19,960.90
BLAINE		159	12,307.76
BROADWATER		107	8,609.81
CARBON		246	22,312.73
CARTER		13	941.52
CASCADE		4,027	336,044.71
CHOUTEAU		85	6,262.60
CUSTER		378	31,850.93
DANIELS		28	2,358.00
DAWSON		205	19,083.58
DEER LODGE		1,235	111,945.22
FALLON		60	4,544.82
FERGUS		373	31,737.05
FLATHEAD		3,946	341,688.92
GALLATIN		1,594	127,329.97
GARFIELD		21	1,818.00
GLACIER		641	52,604.67
GOLDEN VALLEY		24	2,024.00
GRANITE		157	12,057.85
HILL		559	45,022.79
JEFFERSON		261	22,853.68
JUDITH BASIN		44	3,940.00
LAKE		859	70,453.79
LEWIS AND CLARK		2,041	173,654.55
LIBERTY		15	1,211.00
LINCOLN		2,480	225,116.97
MCCONE		27	2,503.00
MADISON		102	6,846.00
MEAGHER		88	6,672.30
MINERAL		330	28,262.02
MISSOULA		4,641	382,622.90
MUSSELSHELL		132	11,002.00
PARK		573	44,480.88
PETROLEUM		0	0.00
PHILLIPS		146	12,624.52
PONDERA		214	17,223.45
POWDER RIVER		27	2,452.00
POWELL		524	43,852.38
PRAIRIE		58	5,156.00
RAVALLI		1,251	102,784.96
RICHLAND		153	11,927.87
ROOSEVELT		280	20,289.45
ROSEBUD		243	20,031.13
SANDERS		787	70,435.20
SHERIDAN		36	2,580.00
SILVER BOW		2,355	194,545.98
STILLWATER		177	16,763.00
SWEET GRASS		21	1,277.78
TETON		152	12,594.12
TOOLE		217	16,993.04
TREASURE		26	2,097.00
VALLEY		376	29,209.03
WHEATLAND		19	900.53
WIBAUX		37	2,898.00
YELLOWSTONE		3,607	312,610.98
INTRASTATE		36,572	3,085,225.22
INTERSTATE		1,601	152,425.79
TOTAL	(41)	38,173	3,237,651.01

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1979 THRU APRIL 1979

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	1,188	102,561.52
BIGHORN	1,371	121,416.22
BLAINE	912	70,516.57
BROADWATER	602	52,304.57
CARBON	1,489	141,205.77
CARTER	68	5,412.80
CASCADE	22,197	1,914,569.73
CHOUTEAU	510	40,713.12
CUSTER	2,171	193,122.80
DANIELS	114	8,023.00
DAWSON	1,084	99,631.11
DEER LODGE	4,340	380,302.87
FALLON	236	19,993.52
FERGUS	2,164	188,129.67
FLATHEAD	16,212	1,349,677.42
GALLATIN	7,970	652,639.53
GARFIELD	113	9,858.00
GLACIER	3,568	293,578.86
GOLDEN VALLEY	101	9,143.00
GRANITE	762	61,752.77
HILL	2,844	238,366.33
JEFFERSON	1,421	132,578.58
JUDITH BASIN	172	15,986.00
LAKE	4,620	383,030.16
LEWIS AND CLARK	11,515	1,005,709.43
LIBERTY	230	21,901.40
LINCOLN	8,618	737,202.52
MCCONE	129	12,745.00
MADISON	424	29,309.00
MEAGHER	415	30,936.16
MINERAL	1,475	125,105.96
MISSOULA	21,117	1,753,924.16
MUSSELSHELL	594	55,126.00
PARK	3,242	246,221.94
PETROLEUM	1	104.00
PHILLIPS	832	74,414.01
PONDERA	1,342	117,059.91
POWDER RIVER	121	11,669.00
POWELL	1,708	145,698.46
PRAIRIE	320	30,082.00
RAVALLI	5,907	466,122.35
RICHLAND	596	48,469.11
ROOSEVELT	1,359	99,065.66
ROSEBUD	1,527	134,884.11
SANDERS	3,000	249,766.78
SHERIDAN	189	16,579.00
SILVER BOW	11,561	979,775.74
STILLWATER	969	97,709.00
SWEET GRASS	129	10,153.85
TETON	968	80,318.10
TOOLE	1,354	110,938.12
TREASURE	162	13,575.96
VALLEY	1,984	162,496.46
WHEATLAND	96	7,707.53
WIBAUX	140	11,044.00
YELLOWSTONE	20,330	1,806,035.17
INTRASTATE	178,608	15,181,935.32
INTERSTATE	7,548	709,360.34
TOTAL	186.156	15,891,295.66

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1979	1978	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims[1/]	20,202	18,281	1,921	*10.5*
Continued Claims[1/]	217,052	211,812	5,240	*2.5*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	186,156	174,675	11,481	*6.6*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$15,891,295	$13,936,483	$1,954,812	*14.0*
Average Weekly Benefit Amount[1/2/]	$89.26	$84.56	$4.70	*5.6*

MONTHLY

	April 1979	March 1979	April 1978	Change From Year Ago Net	Change From Year Ago Percent
Initial Claims[1/]	3,767	3,521	2,932	835	*28.5*
Continued Claims[1/]	44,524	58,026	36,980	7,544	*20.4*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	38,173	50,908	31,915	6,258	*19.6*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$3,237,651	$4,326,861	$2,496,175	$741,476	*29.7*
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt[1/2/]	$89.14	$89.11	$82.65	$6.49	*7.9*
Trust Fund Balance	-$953,915*	-$2,662,331*	-$7,333,083*	$6,379,168	*87.0*

1/ Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.
2/ Derived according to definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".
** Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to $10,484,089.*

All the unemployment insurance activities figures for April 1979 were higher than in April a year ago. The initial claims rose moderately above last month's, with larger increases both from last year and for the cumulative number. The continued claims noted a 20.4% advance from April 1978, and were up considerably for the year-to-date, but dropped about 13,500 from last month.

The number and amount of benefit payments were both notably less than in March. However, compared with last April and the first four months of last year, this month's statistics showed a substantial gain.

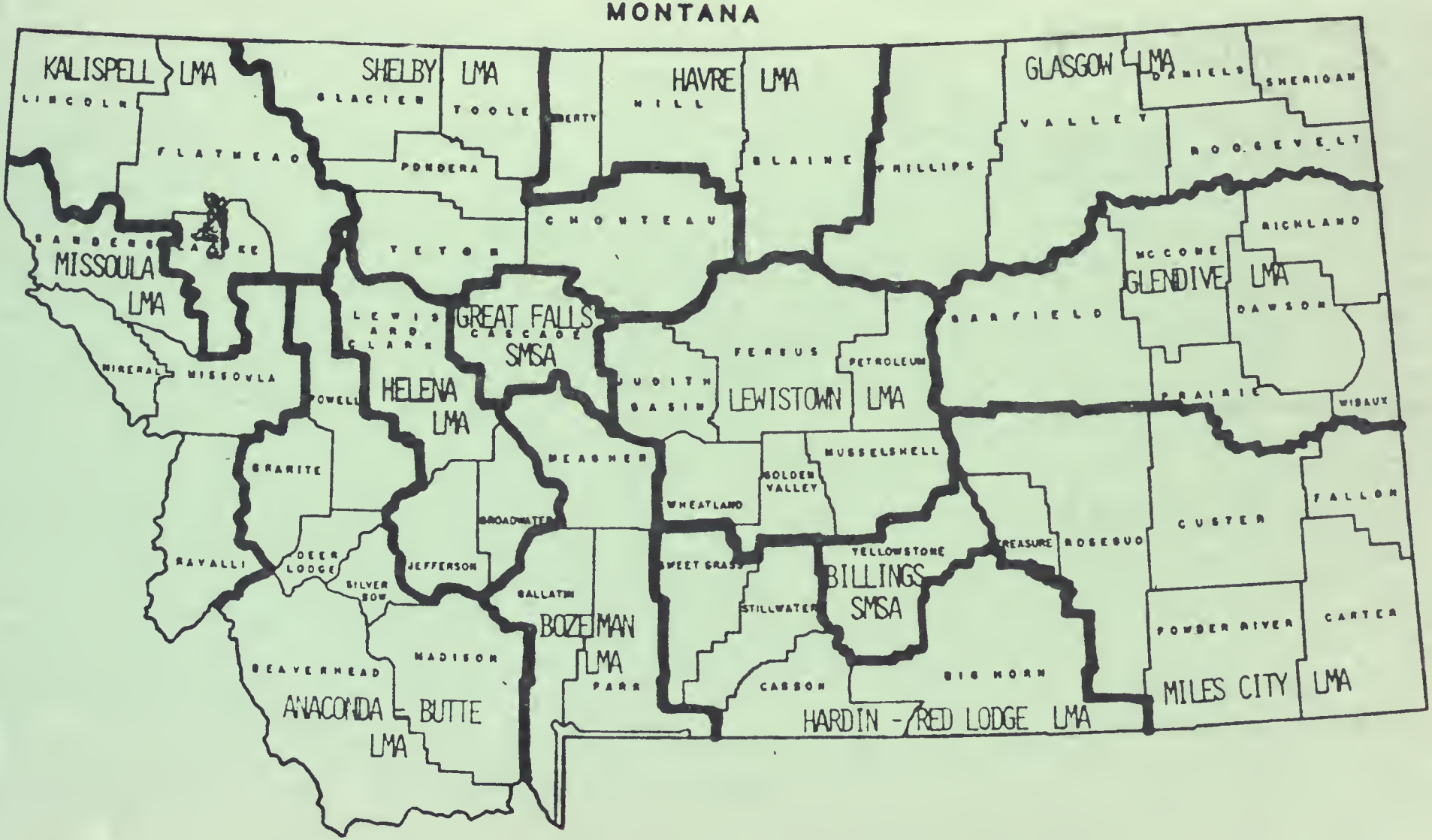
For the past three months the Average Weekly Benefit Amounts (AWBA) have remained essentially the same. During April 1978, and for January through April 1978 the AWBA were much less than for the same periods in 1979, mainly because of the increase in benefit rates this fiscal year.

The Trust Fund balance has improved from March, due mostly to the arrival of first quarter contributions. The year ago amount was again far below the balance for this year. For the next several months of high employment fewer benefit payments will be made, allowing the Trust Fund to rebuild for next winter.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

IN

MONTANA



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. Box 1728
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POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

The Montana State Employment Security Division maintains 23 local Job Service Offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.